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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A control element for electronic appliances comprising a ~~shaped disc~~ rotatable disc-shaped control element (11) with user interface markings, having an underside (19) and being tiltable around an axis (14) and perpendicular to a surface (20) of the control element (11), including a sensor (18) the control element having the having an underside (16) and reacting to pulling and/or compressive stress at the underside (16), the control element (11) being equipped at the underside (16) with two spring elements (17) reacting to compressive stress, the spring element is are ring-shaped and coaxially arranged at a distance around the axis (14), wherein the control element is capable of being pivoted against a vector perpendicular to a plane.
2. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 1, wherein the control element (11) is tiltable around the axis (14) and arranged axially manoeuvrable within an appliance casing (15).
3. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 1, wherein the control element (11) exhibits an outline similar to the area of a circle.
4. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 2, wherein the control element (11) is equipped with and attached to a rotatable actuation disc (22).
5. (Currently amended) The control element according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 4, wherein the actuation disc (22) is rotatable around an axis (14) of the control element (11) and is pivoted and supported over transmission elements (26) on the surface (20) of the control element (11).

6. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 1, wherein the control element (11) exhibits a smooth surface (20).
7. (Previously presented) The control element according to 4, wherein the actuation disc (22) exhibits a structured surface (20).
8. ((Previously presented) The control element according to claim 4, wherein the actuation disc (22) exhibits a geometric form tuned to the control element (11).
9. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 4, wherein the actuation disc (22) is shaped like a cap that is mounted easily rotatable on the control element (11).
10. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 1, wherein the control element (11) exhibits tick marks (12) consisting of twelve marks in regular intervals.
11. (Previously presented) The control element according to claim 4, wherein the appliance casing (15) exhibits tick marks (23) next to the edge of the control element (12) consisting of twelve marks in regular intervals where the actuation disc (22) is arranged on the control element (11).

12. (cancelled)
13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein a stronger pressure during the actuation along the edge of the control element (11) leads to a faster cursor movement and a weaker pressure along the edge of the control element (11) leads to a slower cursor movement.
14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein a menu is selected by actuating the edge of the upper side of the control element (11), the position of the actuation on the control element (11) leading to a highlighting of a menu item at the corresponding position on a display (84, 92).
15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein a character repertoire is displayed upon actuation of the outer edge of the upper side of the control element (11), the position of the actuation on the surface (20) of the control element (11) leading to a highlighting of a character at the corresponding position on a display (84) and the most recently highlighted character is input when the control element (11) is released.
16. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein a sliding movement of the finger on the surface (20) of the control element (11) is detected solely from the direction of the tilt of an axis (14) by means of force sensors or angle sensors.
17. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein a highlighting of a character can be selected by changing positions during the actuated state of the control element (11).
18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein a character repertoire consists of the letters "A" to "M" at the upper edge of the screen and the letters "N" to "Z" at the lower edge of the screen.

19. (Previously presented) A method for controlling electronic appliances by manipulating a disc-shaped, control element that is tiltable around an axis (14) perpendicular to a surface, to actuate a sensor, comprising the steps of

providing light pressure onto an edge of the disc-shaped control element (11) causing a tilt,

moving downwardly the control element against a spring force of less than 40 gram, causing the control element (11) to move slightly perpendicular into the direction of the actuation,

evaluating the tilt by means of a force or tilt sensor for determining the position of an actuation of the control element (11), whereby a circular movement of the control element provides a different directional tilt, the tilt being recognized as a rotation by a micro processor causes a cursor movement according to the direction of the finger movement on the surface of the control element.